

Cedar Hollow Railroad Station
East side of Cedar Hollow Road
(LR 15215), .5 mile south of
Swedesford Road (LR 15132),
1.5 miles northwest of Paoli
Paoli Vicinity (Tredyffrin Township)
Chester County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1199

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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. PA-1199

CEDAR HOLLOW RAILROAD STATION

Location: County Road #15215, south of County Road #15132, Paoli Vicinity (Tredyffrin Township), Chester County, Pennsylvania, (Reference: Map of Chester County [by County Commissioners] 1956).

Present Owner: Reading Railroad, 12th and Market Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

Present Occupant: Reading Railroad.

Present Use: Railroad Station.

Brief Statement of Significance: This structure, built in 1872 by the Chester Valley Railroad, combines a freight and passenger station with a residence. It remains in use with few changes.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The Chester Valley Railroad opened in 1853 and was operated by the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad. In 1859 the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad took over the running; and in 1888 it purchased the Chester Valley Railroad at auction. It was reorganized as the Philadelphia and Chester Valley Railroad, which the Reading Railroad ran under a lease until 1945. On January 1, 1946, it was merged with the Reading itself.
2. Date of erection: 1872.
3. Architect, builder, suppliers etc.: Unknown. It was built at an approximate cost of \$4,150.00.
4. Original plans, construction etc.: None found.
5. Notes on alterations and additions: Almost entirely as built.
6. Important old views and references:

Views: None known.

References: Sources of information to be found in the Chester County Historical Society, West Chester, Pa. - Classified printed and manuscript files under heading: Tredyffrin Township. Transportation - Cedar Hollow Station.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

In 1869 William L. McDowell and wife Mary sold .466 acres of land to the railroad to build this station. Built in 1872, the station has been kept in almost unchanged condition.

C. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: None known.

Prepared by Bart Anderson - September 1958
Curator, Chester County Historical Society

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: No important changes have been made in the structure since it was built.
2. Condition of Fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Structure is two stories; north section 18'-6" by 45' and south section 25' by 28'.
2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Wall construction: Frame.
4. Chimneys: Original; brick.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: All seem original.
 - b. Windows and shutters: All windows seem original; there are no shutters.
6. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Low pitch composition roof.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Original.
 - c. Dormers: None.

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor Plans: The north section has an office and waiting room and freight room on the first floor, and bedrooms on the second floor. The south section has kitchen, living room and dining room.
2. Stairways: Original.
3. Flooring: Seems original.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster.
5. Doorways and doors: Seem original.
6. Trim: Seems original.
7. Hardware: Seems original.
8. Lighting: Electricity introduced.
9. Heating: Stoves.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Building faces north, immediately on railroad track and to the east of route #15215.
2. Enclosures: Fence on east side.
3. Outbuildings: Privy.
4. Walks, driveways etc.: None.
5. Landscaping, gardens etc.: Dew trees in yard.

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